#### SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

# STANDING HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

## DOCKET NO. 2018-2-E ORDER NO. 2018-14-H

## **JANUARY 29, 2018**

**Standing Hearing Officer: David Butler** 

# **DOCKET DESCRIPTION:**

Annual Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs for South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

## MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Motion to Accept for Filing the Petition to Intervene of Solbright Energy Solutions ("Solbright") in this Docket

## STANDING HEARING OFFICER'S ACTION:

This matter comes before the Hearing Officer on Solbright's Motion to accept its Petition to Intervene in this Docket for filing as if it had been filed on the Return Date for this Docket, January 25, 2018. Prior to the filing of the Motion, the following series of events transpired, as reported by counsel for Solbright:

- 1. On January 25, 2018, Solbright Energy Solutions ("Solbright") attempted to file a Petition to Intervene in Docket 2018-2-E.
- 2. On January 26, 2018, attorney Richard L. Whitt was retained to represent Solbright.
- 3. Counsel for Solbright (Mr. Whitt) made an e-filing on January 26, 2018, with the Commission noting his appearance and stating that he would supplement Solbright's filing made on January 25, 2018.
- 4. On the afternoon of January 26, 2018, counsel for Solbright was informed by the Commission staff that Solbright's attempt to file a Petition to Intervene in this Docket was unsuccessful. However, Solbright was successful in serving the then approved list of attorneys in this Docket, with Solbright's Petition to Intervene on January 25, 2018.

Because the Petition to Intervene was in the hands of counsel for all approved intervenor parties, on January 25, 2018, and an attempt was made to e-file the Petition, all within the Commission timeframe for filing a Petition to Intervene in this Docket, counsel for Solbright moves that Solbright's Petition to Intervene, served on January 25, 2018, be accepted for filing and treated as if it had been filed on the Return Date.

Counsel for the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") was consulted, and does not oppose the Motion. In addition, other counsel in the Docket have been invited to express opposition, if any, to the Motion, but no expressions of opposition have been filed as of the drafting of this Directive.

Since the Petition to Intervene was in the hands of counsel for all approved intervenor parties and ORS on January 25, 2018, and an attempt was made to e-file the Petition, all within the Commission timeframe for filing a Petition to Intervene in this Docket, the Motion to Accept the Solbright Petition to Intervene for filing as if it was filed on the Return Date is granted. No prejudice resulted to the other parties, because they were actually served with the Solbright Petition to Intervene on the Return Date. Also, an attempt was made to file the Solbright Petition to Intervene on the Return date, although the attempt was unsuccessful. In addition, any other party still has the right to oppose the Petition to Intervene, if appropriate. Further, there has been no opposition to the Motion expressed. In short, because of all the reasons stated above, the Motion is granted.